



BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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"I have not yet begun to fight!"



STOCK CONTROL DIVISION HERE TO SERVE

By Lt. Kes Townsend

You are the Repair Parts Petty Officer for your division and your division officer just decided that he had to have the new "whatchamicallit" to ease his workload or a piece of machinery breaks and you need a "thingamajig" to fix it. How will you ever get these items? You were listening during RPPO training and you know to go to the Stock Control Division or S-1 in the Supply Department.

The Stock Control Division has a myriad of tasks that it tackles with gusto. LT Kes Townsend, a South Carolina native, and SKC(SW) Evelyn Scott, born in the Philippines, lead the division. AK1 Jo Elliott, from Illinois, is the resident expert in financial transactions. She controls the purse strings and keeps everyone in line, thereby earning a maternal nickname. Ask her, and she may tell you.

SK1(SW) Ken Shepherd, an Okie by birth, is our open purchase coordinator and leaves very shortly. If you ever needed an item, especially during construction, he probably helped get it. SK1 leaves soon, so be sure to let him know how much you appreciate what he has done for the ship. The other SK1 in the office is SK1 Val Lacson, another native of the Philippines. He is our Functional Area Supervisor and coordinates with ADP to ensure the integrity of SUADPS,

our supply computer files. He is often quiet but has a wealth of knowledge and knows how to find obscure details about needed items.

SK2(SW) Myra Newton, a transplant from England, is the newest member of the Stock Control team. Her technical expertise ensures the manual COSAL and other publications are up to date. SK2 Soutsakhone Vongkothigama, a Laotian by birth, is training to be the next financial storekeeper. She also processes our suspense files, looking for problems that may hinder you from getting your material. AK2 Maria Iglesiasg, born in El Salvador, is the status custodian. She can answer your questions about your material such as when it will be shipped and from where it will come.

The Quality Assurance Division, S-9, is a division within a division. It is headed by SKCS(AW) Vincent Lawrence who hails from Missouri. He wants to show you and me ways to improve. SK3 Felicia Nelson has lived all over, in the U.S. and in S-1 and S-9. From reports to storerooms, she is always busy.

The Stock Control Division is open for customer service from 0800-1100 and 1500-1600 while underway. This schedule does fluctuate due to operational commitments. We try to be friendly and helpful so come visit the Revolutionary Gator melting pot.

CAMPAIGN 2000

BUSH BEATS MCCAIN BY LANDSLIDE

By R.W. Apple Jr.

Before Washington state's votes rolled in late Tuesday, aides to Sen. John McCain tried to minimize Gov. George W. Bush's victory in Virginia, which had been reported earlier. The only place Bush had shown any strength, McCain aides said, was in the most conservative section of the country, the South.

But in fact McCain was comprehensively beaten on Tuesday: in a big Southern state with one foot in the mid-Atlantic region, Virginia; in a small, isolated Midwestern state whose economy is based on agriculture, North Dakota; and in a Northwestern state with a progressive tradition, Washington.

It was by some margin the biggest wipeout of the Republican presidential campaign, and it came just one week before 13 states hold Republican primaries and caucuses in what may prove to be the decisive moment of the fight for the party's nomination.

BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

Capt. Douglas W. Keith, Commanding Officer

Lt. Cdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer

JOC (SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer

J01 (SW) Robert W. Gannard, Editor

J03 Laura C. Wiggins, Staff Writer

L11 Jimmie Claspell, Print Shop

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STOCK REPORT

NASDAQ CONTINUES RECORD HIGH, SMALL GAIN FOR BLUE CHIP STOCK

By New York Times

Soaring telecommunications and technology stocks pushed the Nasdaq composite index further into record territory Wednesday and helped the Dow Jones industrials eke out a modest gain. The technology-dominated Nasdaq composite index rose 87.39 points, to 4,784.08, topping the closing record of 4,696.69 it set Tuesday. The Dow Jones industrials added 9.62 points, to 10,137.93. The blue-chip Dow index has risen in three consecutive sessions, the first such performance since Jan. 12-14. But Wednesday's slim advance came after the Dow spent much of the session in negative territory. Broader stock indicators were mostly higher. The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index climbed 12.77 points, to 1,379.19.

SATURDAY'S SITE TV SCHEDULE

CHANNEL 2

1100 DRAGON HEART

1630 IN AND OUT

1800 MOTOWN LIVE

1900 WWF SUPERSTARS

2000 BIG BUCKS BINGO

2200 SIMPLY IRRESISTABLE

CHANNEL 6

1100 CON AIR

1630 FOOLS RUSH IN

1820 THE SIEGE

2020 CHILL FACTOR

2200 WAG THE DOG

TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS.

N A T I O N A L / I N T E R N A T I O N A L N E W S

ADMIRAL BLAIR URGES CHINA TO BE PATIENT WITH TAIWAN ISSUE *By Associated Press in Beijing*

Admiral Dennis Blair's two days of meetings with Chinese military leaders were dominated by discussion of tensions between the mainland and Taiwan.

He expressed great concern about a declaration by China two weeks ago that Taiwan risked attack if it indefinitely rebuffed demands for talks on reunification, U.S. Embassy spokesman Bill Palmer said.

Admiral Blair told Chinese officials in Beijing that building tension would not help and "a solution to the Taiwan issue must be approached with patience and moderation", Mr. Palmer said.

Admiral Blair's visit was intended to re-establish contacts between the United States and Chinese militaries that Beijing severed when U.S. warplanes bombed the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in May. Asia-Pacific security issues such as tensions on the Korean Peninsula and separatist conflicts in Indonesia were also on the agenda, Mr. Palmer said.

19-YEAR-OLD FACES INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER CHARGES

By Stars and Stripes

Prosecutors will seek an involuntary manslaughter charge against a 19-year-old man who had possession of a stolen gun later used by a 6-year-old boy to shoot a classmate authorities said Thursday.

The charge would require the state to show gross negligence by

Jamelle James for allowing the youngster to get the .32-caliber semiautomatic gun used in the classroom shooting of Kayla, said Roland Prosecutor Arthur Busch.

"We were not looking for scapegoats in this case; we were looking for justice for Kayla," Busch said. "Ultimately that justice will be found in the court of law."

Busch said the complaint also will allege that James contributed to the delinquency of a minor and as a result the manslaughter was committed. Conviction on the manslaughter charge carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison.

MARINES NOT AMONG THOSE ON STANDBY TO HELP MOZAMBIQUE *By Cindy Elmore*

A 600 to 800-member military contingent was preparing Thursday to head to Africa, most of them as part of a humanitarian relief mission to flood-stricken Mozambique and South Africa. Several military officials said Thursday that Marines might not be sent in to help with the relief effort, as had been rumored and noted in headlines in Thursday's edition of Stars and Stripes. There were reports Tuesday that the United States was preparing to send a contingent of Marines under the Air Force task force. As of Thursday, military officials still were awaiting final word from Washington on where the Air Force-led joint task force will be located and how many people will be sent, said Maj. Scott Vadnais, a press spokesman for U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

SPORTS

M ATTINGLY RETURNS TO YANKEES

By Buster Olney

It was as if Don Mattingly opened a time capsule Wednesday, breaking into a box of equipment he had not seen since 1995. His jersey still fit, with the No. 23, and so did the baseball shoes and pants. Only the baseball cap was new, and when Mattingly drew that down, it was as if he had never retired. The same sloped shoulders, the thick forearms, the mustache, the easy throwing motion.

Somebody mentioned that the New York Yankees are currently in need of a left-handed designated hitter. Mattingly laughed. He had watched Catfish Hunter serve as a coach in spring training for years, and saw how much fun he had.

After Hunter died last year, it occurred to Mattingly that it was time for him to go to spring training, the way Hunter had. "I always wanted to do what he was doing, come back, enjoy, stay in touch with baseball, but then go back to your family and home," said Mattingly.



Cmdr. John Clayton and Lt. Michael Epperly cut the cake in celebration of the 129th birthday of the Medical Corp. (Photo by PH3 Karri Williams.)

N. ZEALAND WINS AMERICA'S CUP

By Associated Press

With a 26-year-old rookie at Black Magic's helm, New Zealand sailed into America's Cup history, becoming the first country other than the United States to defend the oldest trophy in sports. Veteran skipper Russell Coutts, who won nine straight races, stepped aside hours before Race 5 in favor of protege Dean Barker.

PANTHERS TOP MAPLE LEAFS

By Associated Press

Scott Mellanby, playing in his 1,000th career game, scored a goal to help the Florida Panthers snap a four-game home losing streak with a 3-1 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Wednesday. The Panthers remained two points ahead of Washington for first place in the Southeast Division. Florida led by 16 points on Jan. 15.

OTHER NHL SCORES:

Capitals 4	Lightning 2
Rangers 3	Sabres 3
Canadiens 4	Blackhawks 1

NBA SCORES:

Raptors 96	Celtics 94
Wizards 102	Hawks 83
Jazz 107	Pistons 94

TOP 25 MEN'S NCAA

No.4 Duke 92	Clemson 78
No.6 Ohio St. 79	Penn St. 73
No.8 Florida 87	S. Carolina 67
No.9 Syracuse 73	Notre Dame 71
No.10 Iowa St. 87	Texas Tech 79
No.11 Tenn. 73	Arkansas 66
No.12 LSU 55	No.19 Auburn 53
No.17 Maryland 85	Fla. St. 70
No.21 Oklahoma 66	Texas A&M 59
No.13 Okla. St. 96	Colorado 60